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PATENT
8048-1030

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kenji MORITA et al.

Conf. 1626

Application No. 10/652,338

Group 2621

Filed September 2, 2003

Examiner James Groody

INFORMATION PRODUCING APPARATUS AND METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with Rules 1.97 and 1.98, and in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure under Rule 1.56, the cited documents are made of record on the enclosed PTO Form-1449.

As the USPTO has waived the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and patent publication for applications filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the cited U.S. references are not enclosed, as the present application is filed after June 30, 2003. Copies of the cited foreign patent documents and/or non-patent literature are enclosed.

A concise explanation of the relevance of these items is that these references were cited in the enclosed European Search Report dated September 11, 2006, to corresponding European Application Serial No. 03019763.6.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to issuance of an action on the merits; therefore, no fee is required. The Examiner is courteously re-

requested to initial and return a copy of the Form PTO-1449 to confirm that the listed documents are being made of record and considered.

Under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert J. Patch', written over a horizontal line.

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RJP/tmp

November 30, 2006



(Use several sheets if necessary)

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[illegible][illegible]

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

* English language abstract provided for the Examiner's convenience